Burn the Man on Wednesday night!

At sunset – that's 7:33 p.m. – on Wednesday, August 30, we the people will BURN THE MAN!

Everyone can participate! Bring one gallon of gasoline to the Man by sunset, and we will burn the Man as a community.

WHY?

The notion of burning the Man early is not new. Burners old and new have had many conversations about doing this. Well, it's time to make it happen!

The reasons for doing this are wide and varied. Some wish for a return to Burning Man's roots in impermanence and, perhaps, even raw chaos. Many are just tired of the same old Saturday night Disney-style spectacle year after year. And yet others will participate because this is 'art.'

Whatever your reasons, this is a democratic movement! If enough people show up Wednesday at sunset, the powers that be *must* let it happen! It just takes you – one man or woman – and one gallon of fuel.

HOW?

Your radical participation in this is easy:

1. Get a gallon milk jug, or a 2-liter bottle, anything that will hold liquid.

2. Fill it with gas, kerosene, lamp oil, etc. and walk or ride out to the Man.

3. At sunset, you and your comrades will simply pour your container on the structure and walk away.

4. When the time is right, a brave soul will light it.

5. Sit back and enjoy the view, and revel in the gift you have given the community the rest of the week!

The slow process of this will allow everyone that is in the (overbuilt and unnecessarily Vegas-style) base of the Man to get out in plenty of time. If there is art in the base that should not burn, the artists should be made aware and make the necessary preparations before sunset Wednesday. Most importantly, please do your part to let people in the base know to get out! We don't want anyone getting hurt!

REMEMBER WHEN!
Sunset at 7:33 p.m. on Wednesday!

BRC radio stations

We are so happy to see the return of pirate radio to the playa. You can find the following radio broadcasters on the FM dial here in Black Rock City

89.9 – Radio Electra
90.9 – World Music Radio
91.1 – Radio Synaesthesia
92.5 – Hot Hits of the '80s
94.1 – UNIMOG Radio
94.5 – BMIR (Burning Man Information Radio)
95.7 – Fusion Valley Radio
97.7 – Radio Dionysis
98.5 – KPOD
99.1 – The BRBC (Black Rock Broadcasting Corporation)
99.5 – Radio Free Burning Man
99.9 – Radio Apokiliptika
100.3 – KRAP Radio
101.3 – Radio DMZ
101.9 – Black Rock Pirate Radio
103.3 – Canadian Jihad Radio
105.5 – BBC (Bouncy Bouncy Club)
106.5 – K-SVERT
107.3 – F.A.R.T. Radio (Flatulence Amplification Research Team)

Top 10 albums for the Black Rock Desert

Tim Barsky – *Bright River/Dreaming in a Firestorm*

Kate Bush – *Aerial*

Diplo feat. M.I.A. – *Piracy Funds Terrorism*

Paula Fuga – *Lilikoi*

The L.A. Carnival – *Would Like To Pose A Question*

Lady Sovereign – *Vertically Challenged*

Lamb of God – *Sacrament*

Sinead O'Connor – *Throw Down Your Arms*

Sonic Death Rabbit – *Like The Smell Of Paint*

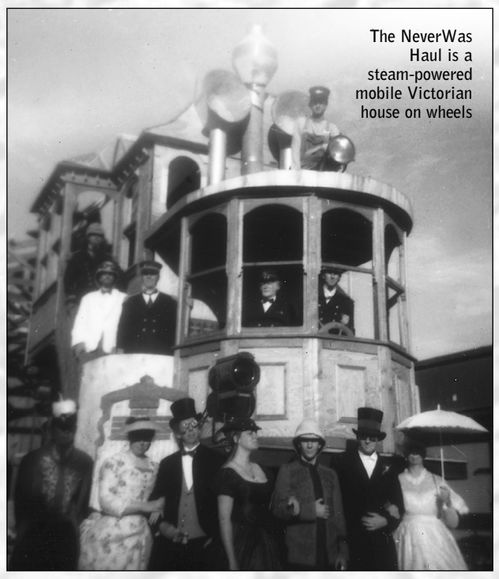
Various Artists – *American Primitive, Vol. 2*

– Zaius Gilgoff

Top 20 art picks of BRC

by MOZE

I'm always amazed at the amount of energy people expend each year to bring their stuff out to the desolate space of Black Rock City. I can't help but feel lucky to be a part of this mad Dionysian potlatch, as the brightest minds attuned to the alternative age bring their creations out to this grand freak playground.



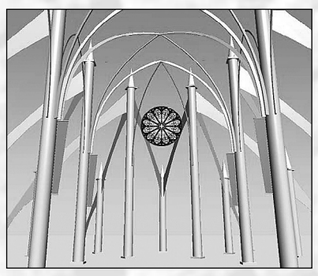
The NeverWas Haul is a steam-powered mobile Victorian house on wheels

Big Penis Art

This all about who got the most money to make the biggest piece of art. Here are my takes on the following huger than anything that's ever been done before on the playa projects.

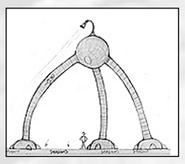
1. *Serpent Mother* by the Flaming Lotus Girls

The FLGs have proven that they have the biggest cojones on the playa year after year, and this is their most ambitious project yet. There is a serpent made of steel. There is an egg that opens and closes. There are pyrotechnics. There are hot girls handling explosives and manning propane tank farms. In my humble opinion, this is the best built, most impressive project on the playa this year.



2. *Conexus Cathedral* by The Conexus Village

This looks like a huge, open gothic cathedral without a roof. I suspect by Friday, all the hippies and reformed Catholics roaming around will be saying, "Meet me at the Cathedral." There will be Hope. There will be Fear. I think they're going to burn the motherfucker. I sure hope so.



3. *I.T.* by Michael Christian

This is a substantial sculpture that's alien-looking, exemplifying Hope and Fear. Similar to what Christian has done in the past, it's a large phallic structure where BRC citizens will get the feeling of being suspended 30 feet above the playa, without visible obstruction between you and the earth.

Expect long lines, just like last year's *Machine* and the *Chairway to Heaven* (or Pirates of the Caribbean at Disneyland or voting machines in any minority neighborhood in Ohio). Once up top, you can hang out with a bunch of stoned, silent Burners taking pictures of the view before they run out of beer and have to make their way back down to their bikes.

4. *Burninator II* by Bill Codding

This looks like the skyline of Mobile, Alabama, with 1000-foot flaming towers, which, when working, are all sequenced and firing at a high rate of speed. Shades of Beaming Man 2000, but with fire instead of lasers. Hopefully, it will work all week. It makes us all feel like we're in a Kuwaiti oil field for a moment as we cross the playa to the next cocktail party.

5. *Temple of Hope* by Mark Grieve and the Temple Crew

The David Best-less project returns with another Temple this year. I only include it in the Big Penis category because of the Temple's past and because everyone looks forward to something to do on Sunday while they're finishing up the last of their booze and drugs.

6. *2BLEVE (To Believe)* by Nathan Smith

Nate Smith is the king of understated, large, bowel-shaking fire art. He does amazing stuff with fire vortexes that harness nature in a seriously dangerous and entertaining way ... and then just shrugs when you go gaga over his gogo. This year, he's burning two round metal spheres on each side of the walkway between the Man and the Temple. Not to be missed.

(Also, see the *Fire Vortex* by Nate. "Intrepid performers sculpt fire into ephemeral wisps and twisting, towering tornados." Nate is a busy man...)

7. *New Day Warwolf* by Tirzah Rodgers

This is akin to the TV throwing beast from '98. As they say themselves: "A fourteenth century siege weapon, thought to be the atom bomb of medieval history, puts hundreds of pounds of rubber chickens into low orbit..." If that doesn't just scream, "Look at our penis," then I don't know what does. They'll be launching a shitload of pants later in the week as well.

8. *El Diablo* by Jack Schroll

A military jet turbine that projects colored flames. Nuff said.

9. *Mission Eternity* by etoyCORPORATION (Switzerland)

Obviously, the Swiss are insane. They guard the Pope and rich people everywhere put their money in their banks. Well, these guys are sending M8 (infinity) pilots across the ultimate boundary to investigate afterlife. As far as I can tell, they are digital undertakers who want to catch your soul and encapsulate it into their LED thing. They are expansive and probably ahead of their time. I look forward to figuring out what the fuck they're really up to.

10. *Thermic Zombie Lance of Power* by Brooke Terpstra

Fire bores through solid granite, raising the question: What is immutable and what is solid? This is entirely big penis in a Thor or Conan the Barbarian kind of way.

Beautiful and Sublime

Here are my picks for the 10 projects that may surprise you.

1. *All Seeing Eye* by Gregory MacNicol

A moving, glowing pyramid. At its apex, a human eye morphs into a cat's eye, a dog's eye, and the eyes of another dozen creatures. I stumbled upon this somewhere between that last E I took however many hours ago and the mushrooms I took just two minutes ago, and I laughed my ass off thinking, "How the hell did they do that?"

2. *NeverWas Haul* by NeverWas Crew

This is the best bet for whimsy, in my humble opinion. A steam-powered mobile Victorian house that roams the playa and serves Irish tea. Did I say steam engine powered? Did I say a house? This is the new La Contessa or Draaka.

4. *Time Machine* by Garreth Wilcock

So much hope, so much to fear. This art deco Nebulous Entity records the stupid shit people say inside it and then plays it back at night. Cool, but it's very prone to microscopic bits of alkaline dust fuxxoring the insides. I wish them the best of luck. If they pull it off until Burn Night, I'll be impressed.

4. *Bifurcation Station* by Mark Saunto

This project asks you to "share memories of the germ of decision they made which affected their lives." Blah, oh my inner child, blah. I'm an Oprah-watching wussbag, blah, de blah. I like the title of the project so I checked it out. Now where's my free car?

5. *A Field of Sunflower Robots* by Stefano Corazza

There's something in this project about a clean energy future and solar energy, but it's as beautiful as Lute's Lily Pond in '02. And don't steal the fucking sunflowers, you surly bitches.

6. *Spectre* by Matteo

Last year, Matteo's big giant head that projects your face onto it died just as I was about to recite some Shakespeare or something. It was only a temporary glitch and everything was back up and running soon after. I really wanted my big head on that bigger head, so I stuck around. After I waited and finished my beer, we all left. I saw that big head out behind the BRC HQ for some time and I was bummed. This one is more than a head – it's an entire body – and hope it works at least through Friday. Matteo rocks and his stuff is some of the coolest art / tech out here.

7. *2piR* by Interpretive Arson

You walk into the space and fire starts going off. It follows what you do. This is very cool. I wonder how many minders they'll have later in the week to keep drunken idiots from getting burned and carried out via helicopter to Reno? Then again, maybe that's the point.

8. *Mondo Spider* by the Spider Team

I like walkers and hopefully they'll let me ride it eventually. If they don't, then they suck and I hate them.

9. *Burning Tree* by Kasia Wojnarski

I like this one, but haven't decided if it's as good or better than Dan Das Mann's *One Tree* in '98.

10. *Kinetic Steam Works (K.S.W.)* by KSW

This little steam engine that could is powering a carousel when it isn't making its way around the playa. This is really fucking cool.

There are a ton of other projects out there – these are just the ones that caught my eye. I don't really know anything about Art, but I love seeing what these folks make happen out here and appreciate every artist who works their ass off to get their project out here.

And honestly, so should you.

WHAT'S OUT	WHAT'S IN
1996	2006
art	drugs
Billion Bunny March	Burning Bunnies
Black Rock Playa	Blue Wing Playa
bong hits	beer bongs
Burning Man history	the Future
camping with your friends	meeting new friends
casual handoffs on the playa	mailboxes
Center Camp	Outer Perimeter
chicks with dicks	men with pussies
chill zones	large-scale sound
coffee	bourbon
cold beer	warm beer
cowboy hats	top hats
detox	retox
electronica	heavy metal
fire spinning	spinning vinyl
furry shit	'70s patched leather
generators	solar everything
golf carts	walking
hair weaves in cornrows	smooth bald heads
hard-packed playa	dust, dust, dust
hope	fear
hula hoops	pogo sticks
joints	marijuana cookies
Katrina	The Big One
Larry Harvey's hat	$teven Ra$pa's beard
making fun of Burning Man	not giving a shit
Manic Panic mohawks	painted bald heads
MDMA	2CB
perfect weather	week-long whiteouts
pissing on the playa	pissing in a Gatorade bottle
playa names	real names
psy-trance	punk-trance
sex in your open tent	sex in an airplane
sun	rain
sunrise comedown	sunrise peaking
theme camps	back street slacker camps
Utilikilts	Utilithongs
villages	block parties
yoga	dry heaving
"Welcome home!"	"Where's my gift?"

– compiled by Eggchair Steve and MoonTrout

Open letter to the BRC community

by K'BUSTER FRIENDLY

Hey there Community, how's yer Burn goin'? Cool... say, I have big favor to ask. I was wondering if it'd be possible for you to stay home next Labor Day weekend.

Hold on, I've got a very good reason for asking you this.

You see, myself and others have been going to this here Black Rock Arts Festival every year since... well, since it was actually *called* the Black Rock Arts Festival. And we've been talking amongst ourselves quite a bit lately, trying to figure out what's become so wrong about Burning Man in the last few years and we've finally put our collective finger on where the biggest trouble lies.

To put it bluntly, the problem is you, the Burning Man community itself.

We didn't say anything about it at first because you seemed kinda cool, and we wanted to give you the benefit of the doubt. But you've all been screwing up our camping trip for far too long and we're finally putting our foot down.

So much bureaucracy and so many rules have been created for your sake, the Community's, that we can no longer recognize what we started attending over a decade ago as being the same event.

Every year there are more members of the Burning Man Community and each year more and more of our personal freedoms have been lost (such as walking on the other side of a 4-foot orange fence).

On top of limiting what we can do, by your large numbers you've turned Burning Man into a mainstream event. Since us early attendees would still like our Big Fucking Camping Trip to be considered an underground or 'alternative' event, you're all just gonna to have to go.

I'm sorry, but it would really be for the best if you all could just find something else to do for next Labor Day weekend. All that fun fur is a fire hazard anyway, and the pyrotechnic artists have more important things to think about than figuring out the safest distance needed to keep you from bursting into flames.

We'd really like to go back to doing the things we enjoyed doing before the focus of the event became all about you, the Community. Fun things like: paying only $35 to camp out in the middle of nowhere, wearing thrift store formal wear instead of custom-made 'playawear' to the Burn, enjoying unobstructed views of the cool stuff, or not having to sit through an hour-long floor show just to get an up-close view of the main event. We'd love to not have our cars searched, to go all week without seeing a cop, to camp as far away from our nearest neighbor as we please, to indiscriminately shoot off fireworks, and to have big-ass campfires on the open playa without worrying about embers flying up some poser's immaculately clean Utilikilt.

Unfortunately, this is only possible if the population of Black Rock City is reduced to early '90s levels ... say, by 95%. So please, for the sake of Burning Man, stop going to Burning Man, okay? Thanks a bunch!

I remember when...

... PBR was a beer, not a fucking fashion statement.

... dance camps played dance music, and weren't trying to be the next venue for an MTV spring break special.

... art cars were really art cars, not tour buses for lazy Burners.

... sneaking into Burning Man was like escaping East Germany over the Berlin Wall. Oh wait, that's how it is now.

... Burning Man didn't make guest appearances on every network sitcom that invited him.

– Noise E. Pirhanha

... there was no need for uptight playa rules about fire.

... there was fire ... *everywhere*.

... people out-numbered art cars.

... I could find my camp.

... no map was required.

... the Survival Guide was only one page.

– Lenny & Claudia

... you actually had to search around 400 square miles of playa to find what was then *not* known as Black Rock City.

... there were no streets and you'd get lost trying to find your way back to camp.

... the Man stood right on the playa.

... there were no ticket collectors, no vehicle searches, no Greeters, no Lamplighters, and Center Camp would get blown down by the wind.

... there was no trash fence and Rave Camp was three miles distant and you could drive to it if you were too fucked up to ride a bike. If you were really fucked up you thought walking there was a *great* idea.

...there was the Black Rock Shooting Gallery with real guns and real bullets.

... there was Bianca's Smut Shack and I was too scared to venture inside. Where is it now?

– Jack

... the porta-potties overflowed in '97.

... registration of a theme camp didn't require a lengthy online questionnaire and submission of drawings.

... Disgruntled Postal Workers brandished unloaded weapons while distributing *Piss Clear*.

... ticket prices were *way* under $100

... any car with wacky decor and/or paint job was considered an Art Car and didn't have to go thru the pre-registration bullshit.

– Penfold

The *real* cost of art on the playa

by ORGASMO DE LA PLAYA and SHUTTERSLUT

Here's an easy quiz for your playa-fried brains. Fill in the blank: this year I spent ____ on my ticket:

A) $300
B) $145-185
C) Nothing. It was "gifted" or bought for me.

If you answered A or B, you probably paid too much. From our calculations here at *Piss Clear*, we've estimated that roughly 1/4 of the cost of your Burning Man ticket is spent on art.

"But money for art is a good thing!" you scream. "Besides, we went through this with BORG2 last year. Why is this a bad thing?"

It's a bad thing because almost all of the Black Rock City Limited Liability Corporation's (BRC LLC) revenue comes from ticket sales – and all "funded art" at Burning Man is here because BRC LLC paid for it to be here. The Corporation chooses the art without any input from the people who are paying for it (namely us, the citizens of Black Rock City), charges us in our tickets to get it and assemble it here, and then hides the true cost of what we're paying for it.

Is all this shit underneath the Man really necessary?

While it's true that BRC LLC makes their financial charts available to the public on the Burning Man website after the event, what the chart doesn't show is that hidden cost.

According to last year's report, BRC LLC spent $438,000 of the total ticket income on artist grants for BRC in 2005. But check out the financials in detail, as we did, and it's plain to see that "funded art" is really short for "Why the hell this thing costs so fucking much."

The report shows the costs of things like rental for heavy machinery and equipment ($506,000); vehicles ($43,000); fuel ($114,000); and independent contractors like the DPW ($511,000). The chart makes it look like this money was used to build and operate Black Rock City. But in reality, much of this cost is funneled into art – and into the price of your ticket.

It's funny, once you start asking the right questions, you start getting the right answers. Ask the grant recipients the right questions about fuel and heavy equipment for their art project, and it becomes obvious that the costs are hidden somewhere else. Ask the DPW driver of the rented crane truck, and he'll tell you which art projects he's using the equipment on and who's paying for his labor. Ask the guy delivering propane and gas to all the art projects, trailers, and vehicles, and he'll tell you who's paying for the fuel.

Our accounting team at *Piss Clear* estimates that grant recipients probably get about $150,000 of the machinery and equipment costs to erect their large projects, plus about $12,000 in labor from the DPW to operate these machines – and in some cases even help build the art. Tack on another $10,000 for usage of the BRC-owned vehicles and another $40,000 for fuel.

Unfortunately, no one is keeping tabs on who gets how much or which department actually gets charged, so our estimates on costs are just that – estimates. But we're pretty darn sure that they're in the ballpark. The bottom line is that it's all paid for out of your ticket price.

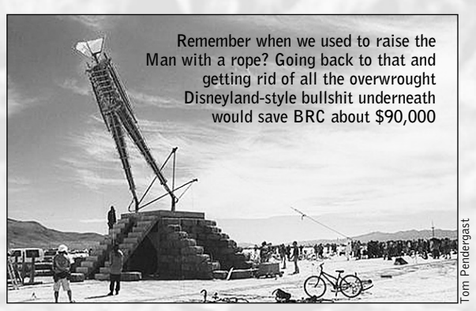
It also turns out that a significant chunk of our ticket money goes toward the Black Rock Arts Foundation (BRAF), the non-profit entity that not so coincidentally has several Black Rock City LLC principals on the board. The funny part? Art funded by the BRAF can't get shown on the playa! Here's why: Black Rock City LLC is a for-profit company that gives money to the non-profit organization BRAF, which is a separate legal entity. However, five members of the Black Rock City LLC sit on the Board of Directors of BRAF (that's 42% of the Board). This close relationship legally prohibits BRAF from funding any art projects at Burning Man.

Now let's look at ticket money spent on BRAF. BRC annually donates around $10,000 directly to BRAF. Then, there's BRC-provided hidden infrastructure support, including office space, utilities, transportation, and equipment – probably another $20,000 of BRAF's total operating cost. Add in BRC staffing for BRAF activities and technical support for BRAF computers and website at a guess of $15,000. Now we have an additional $45,000 of ticket money spent on art that is not allowed to be at Burning Man.

So, why are they getting so much money from our tickets? Because BRAF is acting like a BRAT. Basically, they are causing an increasing drain on BRC finances and resources. This year, BRAF has a choice spot in Center Camp complete with electric power, RV waste servicing, and trash removal – all paid for with your ticket money. Yeah, no shit. We want that for our camp, too!

The real problems with BRAF are that it can't fund art at Burning Man, it only funds projects to insiders, and it spends our money putting art in places like New York City that really don't need more free art.

Besides BRAF, there's also the cost of the Man and his platform, which has gotten increasingly more complex and involved as the years have gone by. BRC LLC spends a shitload of money on that maze platform as a singular art project – $136,000 in 2005 alone.



Remember when we used to raise the Man with a rope? Going back to that and getting rid of all the overwrought Disneyland-style bullshit underneath would save BRC about $90,000

Tom Pendergast

This puts the total amount of ticket money spent on art at nearly $800,000.

Here's an idea: Why don't we do away with the platform, put the Man back on the ground, and have participants raise him with a rope? Even if we leave in the $10,000 spent on fireworks, this would save about $90,000, which could be better spent on, oh, say, more art grants for people who aren't on BRC's "in" list.

Funding more artists wouldn't hurt either. Give them the grant, and back off. There are tried and true artists out here who've never gotten BRC funding, but make great art year after year. Tossing them a bone in the form of some cash would enable them to create even more great shit, or try something beyond what they normally do.

The real issue here is about power and control. There seems to be a lot of needless spending in the name of art – spending that only a very few people have any say in. Burning Man has now set up a system of "haves" and "have-nots" when it comes to art funding, and we can't help but think that nepotism and cronyism play a part in who gets funding and who doesn't.

It's ironic that last year BORG2 found a way for a non-profit organization to fund art at Burning Man without affecting ticket price. It did this by giving up control. The Burning Man community elected BORG2 members and the community voted to select its art grants.

The Black Rock City LLC has a different agenda – and it's certainly not about giving up control.

Do we need funded art?

by PICASSO WENDIGO III

I'd really like a cheaper Burning Man ticket. I'm sure I'm near the bottom of the economic demographic of the Burner population, and could sure use the extra money I'd save for some of my own art projects – paint and fabric, illumination devices, etc. – as well as other important stuff like, y'know, food and gas.

Look, I realize high ticket prices help fund some of the bigger art projects out there in Black Rock City's park space (the playa). And those tickets also help the Black Rock Arts Foundation place art in other cities, like San Francisco and New York. And that's fine in one regard.

But then again, San Francisco and New York already *have* art all over the place. Those towns are global magnets of creativity ... it's not "art poor." It's like preaching to the converted. If the Black Rock City Corporation is really forward-thinking, they should try funding art projects in places like Fresno.

They should also encourage Burners to raise money for art the way other artists raise money – through grants and other fundraising avenues. If anything, this teaches aspiring artist-types to get serious about their craft, and to learn how to get their shit together on the money angle. This way, they can do their art thing year-round and not be so psychically dependent on sucking on the Burning Man tit, style, or audience. This encourages people to do art in their own community and display it there year-round, instead of this mind-takeover devotion of hauling it out here for a great – but short – week.

Lots of expensive megalithic art can be really awesome – but it does cost. It can also become well-packaged grandstanding and art-ego one-upmanship – and sometimes it's only finished being built by, like, Saturday morning. And really big, non-salvage stuff (particularly stuff that burns) does tweak my sense of thrift and wise use of resources. I'll be like, "Well it's neat, but fuck, we could have rebuilt half a city block in New Orleans with all these construction materials."

My point is, we can still have these big art monsters, but if we spent a little less on art in exchange for cheaper tickets, I'd still feel like I'm very "art-rich" here on the playa. I've often felt that less art can be more, in that there's already *way* too much art out here in BRC to "see it all" anyway.

I'm also a huge fan of maximum art effect with minimal material and inputs. It meets my sense of cleverness and resourcefulness and conceptual brilliance over flash and oomph.

You ever watch kids in Black Rock City? Seems like they barely care about all the wacky stuff – they're all having a blast with, like, a tent pole and clot of dirt.

Check out art in your 'hood

I've also felt that over the last few years, a larger percentage of the coolest art is not out on the playa, but on the neighborhood blocks – in people's camps and on inner street frontages and intersections.

I think this is for several reasons:

First of all, a lot of art looks really cool, if not better, in the context of the city, as opposed to being in the void park. There are angles to play off of and commingle with. There's density and jumble. You can check it out from a camp chair or a couch or a tower for hours over the course of the event. It's comfortable, it's right in front of you, there's shade and wind protection, somebody's giving you a drink and/or massage, and you don't have to walk two miles to see it, so it's easy to revisit.

People tend to move through their neighborhoods on foot at a different pace and scale as opposed to a swift art car or bicycle drive-by on the open playa, so there's a more personal level of interaction. There's a better chance that the creator is at their camp, so you can actually have a conversation with them.

Another factor is that many people don't want to be bothered with dealing with the Black Rock City Corp.'s placement politics and all the pre-Burn bureaucratic hassle. They just park their truck and build their stuff right there in in their camp – its more convenient. There's no commute to work. Nobody's telling them if it fits the theme or not, and it may work a message that's really great but not so immediately showy.

In this regard, I consider the neighborhood blocks the richest niche of anarchy and freedom in Black Rock – and because none of it is on any map, it has an element of surprise when you stumble upon it and it builds a certain insider knowledge for it all. It also gives the neighborhood a more lived-in, thriving character, a sort of deeper and truer level of underground within this increasingly organized event.

Shhhh... I better get quiet on this one, lest someone from BRC corporation get the idea that this too needs regulation and theme-ing. Uh-oh...

When Aunt Flo comes to Burning Man

Pray to the moon goddess, burning ladies, that you don't get your period while you're out camping on the playa. For oh dearie me, what a mess it can be!

It may seem manageable when you're at home near your comfy clean personal potty, and at work or in school buildings, but out here, in the elements, with only porta-potties – and especially adding in the costume factor and inescapable dust – it can get pretty complicated.

You're bound to piss off your tentmates who will most certainly complain about being grossed out by the blood droplets near the spot you used your pee funnel and a jug when potty row was just too far away in the middle of the night. They're already on edge from having been subjected to your PMS and stress during the prep-week beforehand – not to mention possibly not being equipped with the necessary supplies out here. (I imagine the Empire store runs out pretty quick.)

If Aunt Flo is visiting while you're in Black Rock City and you forgot tampons or pads, try my **special "roll your own" TP tampon**: unroll a nice section of TP in 6" lengths, using your index fingers as rollers for it. Tear it off. Now begin rolling the TP tightly down the width to the end, fold in half to make a nice sturdy plug, and voila, it should hold for hours. Adjust TP size for your body size and flow.

But really, do ask your body and the lunar rhythms to manifest themselves anytime but playa time ... period!

— MerriMalyce